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Lectures on European History. By WILLIAM STUBBS, D.D., formerly Bishop of Oxford and Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Oxford. Edited by ARTHUR HASSALL, M. A. (London and New York: Longmans, Green, and Company. 1904. Pp. viii, 424.)

THESE thirty-four lectures were delivered at Oxford between 1860 and 1870. They cover the political and military history of the period of the Reformation and the Thirty Years' War on the continent. Of the eleven lectures in part I, "The Emperor Charles V", only two are devoted to the Reformation. Even in these the author proclaims his intention "in this course to steer clear of the religious part of the Reformation history: as clear as I can". The chief actor is Charles, and the chapter devoted to "The Character of Charles V", is one of the most balanced and interesting in the book. Luther receives the briefest possible mention half a dozen times, Zwingli is mentioned once, and Calvin not at all. Part II, "The Political History of Europe from the Resignation of Charles V", is about equally divided among Germany, France, and Spain and the Netherlands. "Henry IV.'s Place in the History of Europe" is the most interesting and valuable chapter here; "I place him above Philip, on a par with Elizabeth, and far below William the Silent" (p. 246). Part III, "The Political History of Europe during the Thirty Years' War", the author confesses, "has not answered exactly to the title"; "whilst we have given a good deal of attention to the drum and trumpet part of the story we have been obliged rather to cut short the political commentary" (p. 386).

These three parts Bishop Stubbs regarded as three acts "of a great series", with "two distinct ideas in progress which may be regarded as giving a unity to the long period. The Reformation is one, the claims of the house of Hapsburg the other. On the whole, the history of the house of Hapsburg is the string on which most certainly the unity of the history arranges itself" (p. 404). Following this thread, the lecturer gives a very sympathetic but temperate and fair-minded picture of the Hapsburg rulers and their policy. In the Thirty Years' War he judges the "Catholic princes infinitely superior in political and moral energy to the Protestant ones" (p. 406).

The lectures give a calm and dispassionate account of a great period, by a scholar of wide reading and sound judgment. The book is weighty and learned rather than brilliant, and abounds in facts rather than in generalizations or interpretations. Probably the most valuable feature is Bishop Stubbs's estimate of the great men of the era, where he displays his judicial temper, or what one of his well-known pupils is fond of describing as "an unequalled power of sitting on the fence". The two exceptions are the severe judgments of Francis I and of the Puritans. The lectures do not "attempt any original research" (p. 7). It would be hardly fair to compare them with the scholarly investigations of the last generation of continental, English, and American scholars, or to expect

them to make any positive contribution to the present stock of knowledge. It would be fairer to compare them with the lectures delivered by Häusser at Heidelberg, and edited by Oncken nearly forty years ago.

The book is so crowded with detail as to be frequently too much like an encyclopedia or even an epitome. An extreme example of these faults is on page 159. Here are some sixty proper names, thirty-nine dates, and two very puzzling and not entirely accurate descriptions of the Guise and Bourbon families. All this could have been given more clearly and correctly and far more usefully for reference in genealogical tables.

The two lines devoted to Richelieu's terms at Rochelle (p. 389), the five lines to the Edict of Amboise of 1563 (p. 185) are inadequate and misleading; the six lines devoted to the Edict of Nantes are inadequate in the statements of both what was given and what was reserved (p. 240). Space for fuller treatment of these and other subjects could easily and profitably have been made by omissions in the "enormous mass of afflicting details", and "the sufficiently tough reading" which the lecturer with delightful and judicious candor admits characterize his treatment of the Thirty Years' War (pp. 375, 402).

The editing leaves something to be desired. There are half a dozen sentences or clauses which lack verbs, or are otherwise unintelligible, and as many more which are obscure or contradictory. A few incorrect dates, half a dozen other minor errors, and the presence of undesirable colloquialisms make up a total of nearly two score minor blemishes or errors which the lecturer would undoubtedly have removed and which would have disappeared before a proof-reading more painstaking and worthy of the scholarship manifested in the lectures. The eleven notes are of the most meager nature. There is no attempt at bibliography of any sort. The sole reference to recent literature is to Pollard's *Henry VIII*. The very poor index of fourteen pages is followed by forty pages of advertisements.

In spite of the inevitable limitations of university lectures written a generation ago, and of the avoidable defects of editing, Bishop Stubbs's lectures show sound learning and unbiased judgment in a period where these qualities are preëminently needed.

HERBERT DARLING FOSTER.

Storia degli Scavi di Roma e Notizie intorno le Collezioni Romane di Antichità. Per RODOLFO LANCIANI. Volume II, a. 1531-1549. (Rome: Ermanno Loescher e Co. 1903. Pp. 265.)

WHILE the first volume¹ of this important work covered a period of more than 400 years (1000-1530), the second covers only the following eighteen (1531-1549), including the last four years of the pontificate of Clement VII and the whole of that of Paul III. This short period was fertile in the discovery of archæological remains, largely in conse-

¹ See AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, April, 1903 (VIII, 522-523).